

The Seventh Grade Scene

A newsletter written by and for seventh grade students

Student Shatters School Records

By: Brandon Freely and Rachel Russell



Seventh grade student Stephanie Ostir recently broke the school records in the 200 meter dash, and the long jump for her age group.

With the time of 29.5 seconds in the 200 meter dash, she broke the previous record set at 29.7 seconds in 1998. In addition, she broke the school record of 14'1" in the long jump, set in 2008, with the distance of 14'5" .

Girls Compete at Districts

By: Brandon Freely and Rachel Russell

This year, the 2011 Junior High Districts were held at the Scranton Memorial Stadium on May 14. The top junior high track and field athletes competed from the following local districts: Dunmore, Mid Valley, Valley View, Montrose,

Blue Ridge, Western Wayne, Abington Heights, and Susquehanna . The girls 3200 meter relay team of Emily Speron, Abby Sekely, Rachel Russell, and Natalie Meagher finished with a respectable time of just over 12 minutes.

Stephanie Ostir qualified in the long jump and 100 and 200 meter dash. With a jump of 13'11" Stephanie placed tenth in the long jump. With a time of 14.7 seconds, she placed forty first in the 100 meter , and with a time of 30.09 she placed twentieth in the 200 meter. Congratulations girls!



Students Recognized for Academic Achievement

By: Trevor Mills

It was a privilege for twenty four seventh grade students to be invited to become members of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS). Only the students with a GPA of ninety-one percent or higher were offered this chance. NJHS is also to credit those showing scholarship, leadership, citizenship, character, and service skills. Members are required to attend NJHS meetings and functions, complete twenty hours of community service throughout the year, and write an essay explaining why community service is of value.

NJHS's purpose is to serve the Mountain View School District's community. NJHS is responsible for school activities such as the following: food drives for Feed-a-Friend, Read Across America where members read to kindergartners and first-graders, setting up the craft fairs, and fashioning murals for the school's hallways. Members also contribute to the community by singing carols at the Veterans' Center.

To officially honor the new members, a candlelight Induction Ceremony will be held on

the evening of May 24, 2011.

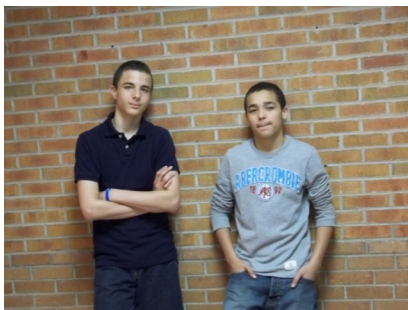
After being asked how he felt about the invitation to become a member of NJHS, Travis Hartman answered, "I felt honored that I had been invited to participate in this amazing opportunity."

Student Spotlight Garrette and Dustin Denby

By: Hannah Pepper

Dustin and Garrett Denby are obviously brothers, but how close are they really? The truth is they are fraternal twins. Before the twins came to Mountain View, they lived miles apart. Garrette attended Salem Middle School in New Jersey, whereas Dustin came a much closer distance only from Elk Lake. When they started at Mountain View, they felt nervous. When asked about Mountain View, Dustin replied, "I had a lot of friends at Elk Lake; I thought it would be hard to make new ones."

Even though they are twins, Dustin and Garrett have



very different characteristics and personalities. Garrette enjoys football, while Dustin enjoys basketball. Furthermore, Garrette is taller and older by two seconds.

Being a twin has its pros and cons. A bright side is that Garrette said his brother and he don't fight a lot, which is good

because they have to share a room. Even though Dustin and Garrette are together all the time, they still enjoy each other's company and support.

Overall, Garrette and Dustin both enjoy being twins. Both the boys were asked what they like the most about being a twin, Garrette replied, "I like having protection and sticking up for each other." He said he likes almost everything about being a twin. Dustin said, "If I get in trouble, he always has my back, even if I'm wrong."

Student Spotlight Brandon Perini

By: Dane Barhite

Are you afraid of snakes, alligators, reptiles and lizards? Well, seventh grader Brandon Perini isn't. He has



over seventy reptiles living in his home. Some of his pets include a five foot-long alligator, a lizard, a green tree python, a black and a white tegu, iguanas, a blue tail lizard, and snakes. He has many more as well.

According to Brandon,

his favorite reptile is the blue tail monitor which is a very fast lizard with sharp nails. Now, his least favorite animal is the marginata gecko because it once bit him.

His family became interested in reptiles when Brandon's Uncle Tim learned about reptile shows, so they started attending and buying reptiles. His first reptile was a savannah monitor; his most recent was a water dragon.

Feeding and caring for reptiles can be expensive and time consuming. They eat turkey burger, meat, live and frozen rats, and lettuce. Also, the price of these exotic pets can

range from \$20.00 for a python to \$300.00 for a tegu. Brandon says it is not hard to take care of them unless they get sick, and then it gets complicated. Because reptiles are cold blooded, they need UVB light and the right amount of heat.

The best part of having all these pets is showing them off. Brandon has taken his python to his English class and his alligator to the elementary school.

When I asked Brandon what he liked the best about his pets, he said, "You can get the discovery channel in your home, but I have it without turning my TV on."



Read to Win

By: Amber Bollard



On May 4, some sixth, seventh, and eighth graders traveled to Western Wayne High School to participate in a reading competition. The seventh grade participants with their coach Mr. Regeski were Jordan Bomersheim, Hannah Richner, Lexy Wansacz, Alison Showalter, Amber Bollard, Anna Housel, Hannah Phillips, and Jacob Wallace. To prepare for the competition the participants received a list of over forty books to read. Some of the books that were on the list were *Smiles to Go* by Jerry Spinelli, *Flying Solo* by Ralph Fletcher, and *The Weirdo* by Theodore Taylor.

The participants started the first round with a victory of thirteen to fifteen against River-

side followed by another win of eleven to fifteen against Western Wayne. When they reached the last round the anticipation was slowly creeping upon them with plenty of anger, confusion, and low tolerance. They lost the last round, of ten to fifteen against Forest City.

Mrs. Penley, the seventh grade reading teacher, said, "I enjoyed helping with the Reading Olympics this year because the students involved were excited about reading and being apart of the team. The Reading Olympics is a great way to motivate students to read." The participants are very excited for next year.

Junior High Softball: Season Recap

By: Hannah Phillips

The weather has finally cleared up for athletes, and that means it's time for the junior high softball team to end their winning season. The Lady Eagles are near the end of a phenomenal season, and, with nine wins under their belts and only one loss, they plan to continue to show their Mountain View pride out on the diamond. Seventh graders on the team include Rebekah Tiffany, Hannah Pepper, Jordan Bomersheim, Kylie Jerauld, Alison Showalter, and Hannah Phillips; Jenny Keating serves as the girls' coach, and Mackenna Whitaker pitches primarily while Tracy Kromko catches.

So far, the team has secured victories against Blue Ridge, Elk Lake, Forest City, Susquehanna and Montrose. Though Montrose may have beaten them in the first game of a double header, the team picked themselves up to win the second game and the respect of the Meteors.

Seventh grade positions include Alison at second base, Jordan at right or center field and also serving as a back-up pitcher, Hannah Phillips at first and, occasionally, the pitcher's mound, Hannah Pepper in right field, Kylie Jerauld manning third base, and Rebekah Tiffany playing center field and sometimes first base.

The team has definitely had their moments on the field, including a play in which a pop fly bounced off of Rebekah's glove only to be caught by Alison

Preparing for the Final Exams

By: Matt Ord and Brandon Perini

Final Exams will begin on Wednesday, June 1 and conclude on Tuesday, June 7. Make-up exams will be given on June 8 and 9.

The exam schedule will be as follows:

June 1— Period 1 exam

June 2— Periods 2 and 9 exams

June 3— Periods 3 and 8 exams

June 6-Periods 5 and 7 exams

June 7— Periods 4 and 6 exams

In order to do well on the final exams follow these tips from the seventh grade teachers:

Mr. Thomas: Complete and

study the final exam review packet.

Mrs. James: Organize your English binder and notes because you will be permitted to use it for part of the exam.

Mrs. Penley: Study lit terms, pay attention in class, and ask questions if you need help.

Mrs. Niemotka: Review your study guides and ask questions if you don't understand something.

Mr. Robinson: Don't get frustrated,. Don't wait until the last minute to prepare. Be confident.

Junior High Softball

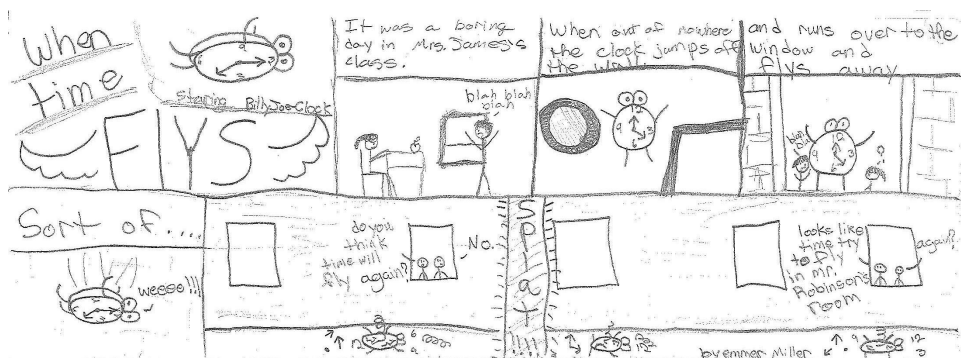
Continued from page 3

The team has definitely had their moments on the field, including a play in which a pop fly bounced off of Rebekah's glove only to be caught by Alison before hitting the ground. The catch was definitely a remarkable moment for everyone, excepting our manager, Annie, who had the difficult task of recording the indescribable play into the scorebook. Rebekah Tiffany and Han-

nah Phillips have also scored homeruns within the games played so far, along with some smooth catches from Jordan. And Tracy Kromko has built quite a base-stealing reputation; but, a catcher herself, let's just say Tracy doesn't tolerate a taste of her own medicine from the other team. "We all have our moments," says Hannah Pepper, "And it's nice to know that we all

work together to make the wins."

The team has ended the season as the champions of their division, and will, therefore, go on to compete against other districts. Their first upcoming game is scheduled to be against either Wallenpaulpack or Abington Heights. Wish them luck!



Soul Surfer

By: Rebekah Tiffany

Bethany Hamilton grew up with "saltwater running through her veins." Her family and her friends were always surfing. Bethany and her friends were involved with surfing competitions and were offered sponsorship deals.

Then, Bethany, her friend, and her friend's family were surfing in a private reef they found deep in the woods. While they were lying there, Bethany saw a flash of grey and the next thing she knew she was underwater as the shark tore off her arm up to the

shoulder and also part of her surfboard. As soon as it happened, her friend's family tried to get out of the water and onto land. When that was accomplished, they got onto the main road, and Bethany was put into an ambulance and rushed into a hospital. When she woke up after the surgery, her first words were, "When am I able to surf again?"

As time went on, Bethany tried to compete in a surfing competition. Frustrated that she couldn't surf, she gave away her surfboards. Her dad tried to get her to

keep on trying but she wouldn't budge. She had enough of surfing and didn't want to be anywhere near the water. But, with the help of her pastor and her belief in God, she learned to give surfing another chance. Will she just give up again?

The movie will keep you on your toes for the whole time and keep you guessing until the very end. I would recommend it to anyone who believes that you shouldn't give up no matter how hard the situation is. *Soul Surfer* was a great movie and I would definitely see it again.

Students Complete Math Problems for Charity

By: Deborah Roberts

Fifteen seventh graders and thirteen eighth grade students just completed an educational fundraiser to benefit St. Jude's Children's Hospital called. Math-a-thon. The participants in both seventh and eighth grade raised a combined \$1665 for this worthy cause.

In order to participate, students first obtained a math booklet from their teacher, Mr. Robinson. Then, they solicited sponsors from friends and family. Next, they completed the math problems and collected the money.

There are many benefits to the Math-a-thon. This fundraiser is for a great cause and

helps students understand the importance of helping others. In addition, it allowed students to reinforce their math skills.

Based on the amount of money raised, students won prizes for their efforts. For example, with \$35.00 raised, students won a t-shirt and a Six Flags pass.

When asked about Math-at-thon Mr. Robinson responded, "As a math teacher I really like it because students are doing math, and raising money for a good cause."

Students Visit NYC

By Collin Burt

On Saturday, April 30, students in the Art Club and their chaperones traveled to New York City. Art Club members raised money for the trip through various fund raisers during the year. For example, they hosted two Open Mic Nights and sold crafts like baskets and wooden snowman at the annual craft fair at the elementary school.

Students were dropped off at Radio City. From there, they walked to St. Patrick's Cathedral and Rockefeller Center where they saw the architecture of the cathedral and the many shops like the Lego store at Rockefeller Center. After, they proceeded to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for a self guided tour of the many galleries. Following the MoMA they walked to Central Park where they had bagged lunches and toured the park. From Central Park, they visited the various stores in Columbus Circle and viewed the art show "Vision of a Genius" by Salvador Dali. Then they ended the day with dinner at Dave and Busters.

Mrs. Lombardi had this to say about the trip, "We had a wonderful time experiencing various cultures and art periods through art and the environment of New York City."

Have you read any good books lately?

By: Travis Hartman

With the help of the seventh grade reading teacher, Mrs. Penley, the technology coordinator, Ms. Kon-sur, and students in academic reading, a website called Teenread16 was created. This site lets people who would like to read a book first read a review of the book. At the moment, only a handful of reviews are included such as reviews for the following: *Before I Fall* by Lauren Oliver, *The Last Song* by Nicholas Sparks, and *The Breaker Boys* by Pat Hughes.

Students can look up reviews in the following genres nonfiction, fiction, fantasy, sci-

ence fiction, historical fiction, realistic fiction, and mystery.

"I think that Teenread is a really great way to help our students access books within their interests and reading levels. I'm excited about integrating technology into the day to day of our students," replied Mrs. Penley. "As the co-developer of the program I'm excited to see how many students will use it, and since in order for it to succeed it requires student participation. I hope that it will continue for many years." You can visit the website at www.teenread16.wikispaces.com.

Top Math Students Compete

By: Hannah Pepper

The Sottile Memorial Math Competition was held on May 12 at Marywood University. The seventh grade students who participated were Hannah Phillips, Stephanie Ostir, Anna Housel, and Hannah Pepper with their coaches Ms Barrett and Mr. Robinson.

Upon arrival, the participants were sent to separate rooms. There they met with students from other schools and completed a group math assignment. The students then took an individual math test. The test

consisted of many different math concepts. Then, with their groups they did another group assignment. Then they competed in a math relay. For the relay, each student in the group was given a math problem. The problem used the answer they were given from another teammate to find their answer. The first group to get the correct final answer won. The students then had lunch and attended an awards ceremony. Stephanie Ostir's group placed second.

<p>May 25 At 7:00 PM</p>	<p>MVHS Chorus Concert</p>
<p>The order of the performances will be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior High Chorus • Vocal Jazz • Senior High Chorus 	<p>It will be an exciting night of vocals directed by Mr. Brian Hoover and accompanied by Kelly Purdy on the piano. Please come out and support your friends!</p>
<p>MVSD</p>	<p>The performance will begin at 7:00 PM</p>
<p>In the high school auditorium</p>	

Students Rewarded for Hard Work and Good Behavior

By: Emmett Jodon and Eric Landes

This year was unique for the students and teachers of seventh grade. The seventh grade classes had a separate wing of the high school, and their teachers worked closely with the students as a team. The team came up with rewards for the seventh graders behavior and academics. One of these rewards was Character Cash.

Character Cash is paper money that students are able to receive for doing random acts of kindness. Every marking period teachers collected the Character Cash in their prize bins and drew a winner from each bin. The prizes included gift certificates to Borders, Target, Wal-Mart, movie tickets to the Great Escape Theater, and iTunes gift cards. The following students won in either the second or third

marking period drawings: Natalia Parjane, Garrette Denby, Dustin Denby, Emily Speron, Nick Tran, Zack Heller, Kylie Jerrauld, Kaitlyn Papa, Kaitlyn Crandel, and Marshall Ward.

After the drawings, we caught up with Dustin and asked if the possibility of receiving Character Cash affected his behavior. His response was, "I knew if I did something good I might have a chance to win and I did."

Another reward for the seventh grade was Boast Cards. Boast Cards were postcards sent home to parents telling that a student has improved in academics. To get this reward all five teachers have to agree that the student has improved in academics.

Some of the other incen-

tives the seventh graders experienced this year were a free sixth period, where if they qualified academically, they could go outside for various activities. Finally, a pizza party on May 27 for the twenty-six students who achieved honor roll in all three marking periods. On May 26, the seventh grade teachers and the eighth grade teachers will recognize their students in an award ceremony in the auditorium. Each teacher will hand out awards for both the male and female students with the highest average, the most improved student, and the hardest working student. In addition, the teachers will recognize the students who are the most respectful and kind and caring, and the student with the best attitude.

Turn Trash into Wearable Art

By: Lexie Twining

Up Cycling is a great way to turn unused items into everyday items. Up Cycling is the process of converting waste materials or useless products into new materials or products of better quality or a higher environmental value. Instead of throwing useless items away, save them to make use of them.

Some ideas of Up Cycling can be the simplest things. All you need is a mind full of creativity, and materials. Some ideas of Up Cycling are soda tab bracelets, fork bracelet, candy or gum wrapper bracelet, plastic bag laptop case, and many others. Instead of throwing items away, stop and think, can these items be recreated into everyday items? If yes,

then let your creative mind flow.

Have you ever wondered how to make a candy wrapper bracelet? Well here's how. All you need are six simple supplies: candy or gum wrappers, 3 jump rings, jewelry clasp, and a large craft needle. To start, fold the wrapper in half, width ways, and then unfold it again. Fold the edges in, so that they meet in the middle. Fold the wrapper in half again, with the edges tucked in, width ways and then unfold. Repeat the previous steps and fold the edges in to the middle, width ways. Fold it in half length ways to create a crease in the middle. Now, fold the edges in length ways, so that they meet at the crease in the middle. You should

now have a little v shape. Make a few of these. Slip the two feet of the v through the hole in another v's leg. Take a third v and continue this along. Continue this with more and more folded wrappers, keep an eye on the pattern that is being formed so that you know which side to place the next folded wrapper. Then, make a string long enough to fit around your wrist. Pierce holes through the folded wrappers at both ends of the strip. Slip a jump ring and a jewelry clasp through one end. Slip two more jump rings through the other end and you're done! Just think, you would've just thrown the wrappers away, but now you can make a candy wrapper bracelet!

Enjoy a Home-Cooked Meal at Bingham's

By: Madison Wagner

The day struck Lenox like a match. It was Bingham's Family Restaurant that caught fire. The restaurant had been burned down by a disgruntled employee. The town was stunned to find their sacred food palace was gone. Two weeks passed until the owner announced that the doors would re-open. Well, a year has passed and the owner has kept his promise to costumers.

My mother, like myself, was very anxious to return and taste the pure bites of heaven. We went a few days after opening, and the new sight left us breathless. Unlike the old peeling wall-

paper, the new cream walls are showing the new contemporary feel. A beautiful un-chipped tile is coating the floors. The chairs and cushions have changed also. Green fabric cushions you in a very comfortable way. The new sleek scene is a sight to behold.

However, the food is the main draw. I was so thrilled when my Sunday morning chicken and biscuits arrived at my table and gazed at me from the plate. I was automatically throwing my fork back in for more, because, from what I could tell, the food is as good as ever (not to mention that it arrived to my table quicker.)

Of course, to end a meal at Bingham's, you have to finish the meal with one of their signature homemade desserts. To me, this screamed cream puffs. You never know how much you miss something until it's gone! I inhaled the giant puff of delight with foam and left happy and satisfied with all the new Bingham's had to offer. "The arson was a sad thing, but it gave an opportunity for a better restaurant and a new change." says seventh grader, Blake Reed. "Its good to be back." agrees Irene Ransom, Bingham's employee.

Poetry Corner

Odes

Odes were invented by the ancient Greek poet Pindar around 500 B.C. Then, odes followed a set, intricate pattern. They were serious and dignified choral songs that were performed to celebrate victories.

In the twentieth century, Chilean poet, Pablo Neruda invented the irregular ode. He abandoned serious topics and the strict patterns of the ancients and wrote odes that celebrated everyday life and ordinary objects: a pair of socks, onions, a bar of soap, a storm, laziness, a spoon.

Ode To Mangos

By: Natalia Parjane

O, mangos,
encased in a nest of twigs
your juices fill me with
profound happiness
as sweet as the
honey in my tea
I hear you
whispering, tempting
me to take one bite
out of your
orange and green
cover, nature
speaks through you
temptation overcomes
me and I caress your smooth surface
and smell your delectable
fragrance preparing to
take a bite and then
another until your
memory is the only thing
left of you and I will smile
at your memory and I will
love you forever

Ode to Gummy Worms

By: Blake Reed

O, gummy worms,
On the counter
you lay,
wrapped in cellophane.
Your colors
fill my mind.
You call,
begging to be
free.
Your candied
flavor fills my
mouth.
Who's next?
You, the blue
and yellow
You seem
to wiggle
down my
throat.
You are superior
to all other
gummy things.
The bears,
wannabes.
The fish,
they can
only
ream.
Even Sour Patch
and Mike and Ike
will never
be as

Ode to Dr. Pepper

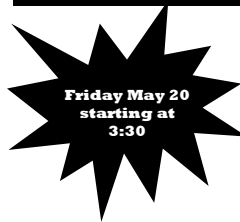
By: Madison Wagner

O, Dr. Pepper.
You sit trapped
in the fridge
you call an office.
I reach,
for your throat,
and slowly unwind
your crown.
I lick my lips,
and hear the bubbles
of satisfaction rise
to my ears.
"Drink Me! Drink Me!"
you whisper,
taunting me.
I take a slight sip,
I feel the world
is once again good.
Your an addiction.
I twitch at the sound
of your name.
I hear Angels sing
when I drink
of your perfection.
Ahhhh, Life is good.
Life is Good.

The Seventh Grade Scene
would like to acknowledge the
efforts of **Deon Faramelli** for
help in setting up the newsletter,
editor **Seth Fluck**, the
photographer **Hannah Richner**,
Brandon Freely for the original art work,
and all the students who contributed
articles and ideas to the newsletter.

Thank You and Keep Writing!

Welcome to the high school



**Friday May 20
starting at
3:30**

Only \$3 for
admission!

A dance for 6th-
8th graders

It will be an
fun-filled
night hosted
by D.J.
Dennis

Enjoy Three Good Book This Summer

The Fire Within

by Ewan Sands

The best book I recently read was *The Fire Within* by Chris D'Lacey. This fantasy novel is about a twenty year old college students named David who moves in as a tenant with an unusual family. Not only is the landlord's daughter, Lucy, obsessed with squirrels, but the landlord, Liz, makes clay dragons that are real, and have special powers.

In the beginning of the book, Liz makes a dragon for David, which he

names Gadzooks. Gadzooks is an inspirational dragon who writes down words on his pad and provides David with ideas when he is inquisitive about something. David and Lucy also go on a journey to rescue an injured squirrel named Conker. However, little does David know that Conker and Gadzooks will play more of a role in his life than he thought. Will David and Lucy rescue Conker? What will happen with Gadzooks? Find out by reading.

The Fire Within is an outstanding book that is realistic and engaging. You will be sucked into the story and read chapter after chapter.

The Fire Within is the first of five books in the Dragon Fire series. I thoroughly enjoyed this book, and would recommend it to anyone interested in dragons, and fantasy lovers.

Mockingbird

By Anna Housel

Mockingbird tells the tale of an eleven-year-old girl named Caitlin. Caitlin's older brother dies in a school shooting and she is trying to get along without him. She's having trouble, mainly due to the fact that she has Aspergers Syndrome. As she goes through her search for closure, a word she found in the dictionary, she discovers the power of friendship and how colors can open up

your world.

This book gave powerful messages. It showed the hurt that goes through communities and families after a tragedy, and how coming together can help everyone find closure. Also it shows the struggles that people with disabilities have in order to live and be understood. Altogether, I really liked this book. The plot, character development

was good in general, and it showed a lot of emotion. In addition I liked that it showed into life, death, and how to move on. The moral was good, but the story was sad, so have tissues ready! This book should be good for ages ten and up to adults. There is no sequel, as of now, but the plot resolves itself in the end.

The Breaker Boys

By Stephanie Ostir

How would you feel if no one understood you? What about if no one was your friend? Life is like that for Nathan Tanner, a 13 year old boy during the summer of 1897. He lives in Hazelton, Pennsylvania, where coal is its major industry. Nate's mother died when he was just a little boy, and he now lives with his father, stepmother, siblings, and servants in a wealthy mansion that overlooks a poor town, called a patch town, where all men and boys work for his father's coal business; mining coal, sorting it, etc. Nate's family is very wealthy, and has more than enough money to meet everyone's needs. Even though Nathan has everything a boy at his time period could imagine, the one thing he doesn't have is a friend. His family doesn't understand him, and they

find him a nuisance most of the time because of his poor attitude towards most things, and his bad temper.

One day, Nate goes for a bike ride on a hot summer afternoon. What he doesn't expect to meet is a friend. Nathan meets Johnny, a Polish American boy who spends most of his days sorting coal for Nate's family in a filthy, dark building called the breaker, to earn a little money for his poor family. When Johnny asks Nate a little about himself, Nate lies to him. Nate says his family is not rich, and that his parents are not who they really are. At home, Nate learns his own family's fears about the future. As lie goes on top of lie, new breaker boy friends are made, and friendships grow stronger, and event happens where Nate's moment of truth draws nearer and

nearer. A violent incident happens that will change all coal country lives forever.

The Breaker Boys was a book I could not put down. The author, Pat Hughes, made me feel like I was a character in this book, and witnessing the 1800's and all the struggles and adventurous incidents that came along with it. I really connected with this book. This book takes place in Hazelton, PA, which is approximately an hour from Kingsley, PA. In this area, many people's relatives actually worked in the coal mines and for the coal companies, including my great-grandfathers. I give this marvelous book five stars and two thumbs up. I highly recommend *The Breaker Boys* to any reader who loves excitement and historical fiction.